

FIREBUG TRIES TO RESTRAIN A FIRE.

Three Bridges, N. J., a Victim of a Mysterious Incendiary.

WOMAN WAS SUSPECTED

Post Office, Barns, a Mill and Other Property Destroyed, Vigilance at Work.

Citizens of Three Bridges, N. J., are agitated to the extent of staying up nights because of the ravages of a firebug, or firebugs, who has, or have, been endeavoring to make ashes of the thriving industries of that enterprising village.

Up to four months ago there had not been a fire in Three Bridges for almost two years. Citizens of the village had begun to think themselves fireproof, but when Henry Tracy came down from Plainfield to visit his brother, the clerk in Henry Wilix's store, he brought with him an illusion.

Young Mr. Tracy went to bed one evening and when he awoke about midnight he found that the postoffice, of which his brother's employer was the head, and which occupied the ground floor of the building in which he was sleeping, was on fire. At great personal risk he aroused his relatives and all escaped.

Then last Monday night it was discovered that Klein's grist mill was on fire. This discovery was made while the village was at supper. Twenty minutes later, two women made the discovery that Abraham Case's hay press was also ablaze. There being no water nor ladders nor fire extinguishers in the village, the inhabitants were afforded the opportunity of seeing two thriving industries go up in smoke simultaneously.

Everything went to show that these two fires had been started by an incendiary. This impression was strengthened on the next night when Wood's hay press was found to be in flames.

The town of Flemington was appealed to for assistance, and assistance arrived next morning when there was nothing left of the hay press but a hole in the ground.

Trainmen on the Lehigh Valley milk train which stopped at the creamery early the next morning discovered that a pile of waste soaked with kerosene oil had been packed against the side of the ice house. Slices of the discovery of the incendiary visited post office and the oil-soaked waste was collected and filed away.

By this time it occurred to the people of Three Bridges that they were nourishing a firebug. Immediately this conviction riveted itself in the collective intellect of the village, and the village committee was organized and suspicions were cast in various directions.

The consensus of suspicion centered upon a man who had lived in the village for many years, and had avoided work with commendable skill. Able bodied men and boys of the village were told off in squads of fourteen each to patrol the streets and unfrequented alleys at night in order to apprehend, if possible, the man with torch.

On Thanksgiving night the community was aroused by the news that a barn in Riverside, four miles east of the seat of incendiary, had been burned to the ground under suspicious circumstances. Friday night another barn in Sargentsville, six miles away, was ashes. Two valuable horses were burned.

It was believed at one time that a woman was the guilty bearer of the oil-soaked waste and the torch, and she was sought. But it was discovered that the person who had fired the grist mill had skillfully disguised the torch, something that no woman could do unless she was a machinist. In the meantime every citizen is extremely vigilant.

DYING MAN TRIED TO CONCEAL HIS IDENTITY.

"Don't Tell My Friends," Said Davis, a Mysterious Street Car Employee, Before Expiring.

William Davis, thirty-one years old, employed as a tripper on extra man on the Sixth Avenue electric car line, died yesterday morning in Roosevelt Hospital from injuries received Friday night when he was struck by a wagon in Fifty-ninth street.

Dr. Marcy, the house surgeon at the hospital, questioned Davis when he was received, believing that the man was trying to conceal his identity. In reply all Davis would say was:

"Don't tell my friends. I don't want them to know I'm here."

Late yesterday afternoon a man who said he was C. D. Powers, of No. 1727 North Twenty-first street, Philadelphia, called at the hospital and said he was a friend of Davis, and that the deceased was well-to-do. He refused to say anything further. Davis had given his address as the Exchange Hotel, No. 1612 Broadway.

There it was said Davis had once stated that his father had died a year ago, and that he was going to brace up and go home. His father, he said, was of the firm, Davis Brothers, West Bangor, Pa.

Visitors to the Pope, Return. Sailors passengers on the Commodore Umben, which arrived last evening, included the Right Rev. E. S. Chant, Bishop of Indianapolis, and the Very Rev. R. C. Canon Rogers, who were accompanied by an audience of about thirty persons.

Notes of Society. Mrs. Randolph, William C. Whitney's step-daughter, is in Paris, where she will remain a few days at her country home, Westley Hill, Long Island.

Miss Gurnee gave a dinner company last evening at her residence, No. 628 Fifth Avenue. She also entertained at luncheon on Friday.

Mrs. Chester W. Chapin, of No. 24 West Fifty-seventh street, was among those who gave reception yesterday afternoon.

The first of the junior cotillions arranged by Mrs. Joel B. Schacht and others was given at Delmonico's last evening. It was largely attended by members of the younger set.

J. Seale, of No. 12 East Seventy-seventh street, will give a theatre party to thirty-five of her daughter's friends, and after a supper and dance at Sherry's. She has received two weeks from to-morrow.

Mrs. and Mr. Henry H. Edwards, of No. 261 West Eighty-ninth street, have sent out invitations for an evening reception on Tuesday, December 19.

An interesting social incident on December 9 will be the meeting of the College Women's Club at Sherry's.

Many of this year's debutantes will attend the first of the junior cotillions at Sherry's next Tuesday. Miss Harriet Dehner, her sister, Miss Marie Dehner, will entertain several debutantes at dinner that evening, taking them afterward to the dance.

Mrs. Alexander T. Van Nest, of No. 31 West Thirty-seventh street, will give the first of a series of dinner parties on Tuesday and after that take her guests to the junior cotillion.

Mrs. Schuyler Quackenbush, 142 West Fifty-seventh street, has given out for late on December 9.

The Deborah Society will meet at Sherry's on Wednesday.

The Board of Governors of the Wednesday cotillions gave a reception yesterday afternoon at Delmonico's to three of the patronesses of their dance, Mrs. Algernon S. Sullivan, Mrs. Samuel Spruance and Mrs. Lawrence. Several pretty girls assisted in receiving. The first of this set of popular dances will be given at Delmonico's next Tuesday, and the second on Wednesday, January 3 and 24 and February 14.

Solid Trains to Northern Michigan. The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway is now running solid trains of passenger cars, leaving cars leaving once a week, and the class day coaches through Chicago to Calumet, Houghton, Hancock and other points in the Copper Country without change of cars, with direct connection for Marquette, Negaunee, Ishpeming, etc., and passengers from the East, South and Southwest will find this a most desirable route.

All coupon ticket agents sell tickets via the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway.

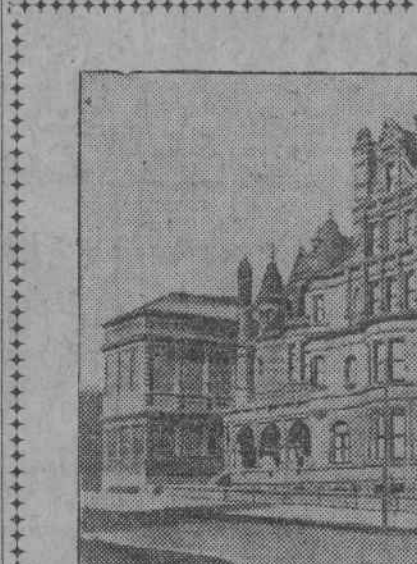
WIDENER'S OLD HOME A SEAT OF KNOWLEDGE.

Philadelphia's New Library to Be Opened Soon.

IT COST \$1,000,000.

Millionaire Philanthropist Gives His Former Home to the City of His Youth.

Philadelphia, Dec. 2.—It is announced by the authorities that the splendid mansion at Broad street and Girard avenue, pre-



P. A. B. Widener's Old Philadelphia Mansion.

It stands at Broad street and Girard avenue, in Philadelphia, and is a magnificent structure, worth, with its fixtures, about \$1,000,000. Two years ago, on Thanksgiving day, he astonished a party of guests at dinner by announcing that his home from that moment was a gift to the city. It has been fitted up as a public library and will be opened soon.

sent to the city on Thanksgiving Day, two years ago, by P. A. B. Widener, the capitalist and philanthropist, will be opened as a public library within a month. The mansion, which formerly was the home of Mr. Widener, and the books and works of art he has set aside to make the gift complete, will represent one of the most magnificent donations ever made to any municipality.

Mr. Widener's idea in making the offering to his fellow townsmen on Thanksgiving Day was to mark the occasion with his gratitude for the fact that, from a poor boy, with nothing but his brains and energies as his capital, he had been permitted to grow rich beyond any dream he had ever had of wealth, and had physical and mental health to enjoy the proceeds of his industry. He had been a member of the city of Philadelphia since 1847, he invited to dinner in his home a score of the leading men of the city, prominent among them Dr. Pepper, the orator, and the real creator of the Commercial Museum.

Astonished His Guests. Mr. Widener arose at table and announced that the residence in which they were being entertained was at once to become the property of the city, to be used forever as a free library. There was a single stipulation accompanying the gift, and that was that the institution must be known as the Josephine Widener Library, in memory of his wife. The capitalist's devotion to his wife in life was one of the strongest traits of his character. He named after her his yacht, a vessel renowned for its swiftness.

There had been no intimation of the generous purpose for which the mansion was being given, and as all of the guests had been admiring with eager eyes the splendors of the mansion, with its onyx walls, golden candelabra, costly

CALLER FAMILY TO SEE HIS SUICIDE.

Reimer Cut His Throat Before Wife and Five Children.

"Watch me die," said William Reimer to his wife and five children. He went to a bureau drawer, and while they were wondering what was going to happen he took out a razor and, standing before a mirror, drew it across his throat.

The cries of the horror-stricken family brought neighbors. When they came in the man was writhing on the floor. A surgeon took him to the Eastern District Hospital, where he died in three hours. The cardiac artery was severed.

The suicide was thirty-six years old, lived at No. 32 Division avenue, Williamsburg, and was a mixer in the Mollenbauer sugar refinery. He had behaved erratically for months, and his fellow employees teased him. He had a quarrel on Tuesday with Peter Gerken, of No. 124 Grand street, and knocked him senseless with a club. He was arrested, but Gerken would not prosecute.

Reimer became so defiant after this, thinking that he was too influential to be punished, that the foreman discharged him. He went home despondent, and told his wife he feared he would never be able to get another job.

He was more gloomy than ever yesterday. After dinner he lay down. Two hours later, he jumped up and called the family in to see him himself. His wife and children are destitute.

CONTEST WATER RIGHTS TO CARMAN'S RIVER.

Members of the Smith Family Press a Suit Against the Brooklyn Syndicate.

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William E. T. Smith and several members of his family have brought suit against the Brooklyn Water Syndicate, which recently purchased a number of the largest ponds and streams in Suffolk County, in which it is sought to dispossess the syndicate from possession of Carman's River, one of the most valuable water rights bought by the syndicate.

The Smiths claim title to the property from their grandfather, William Smith, who died in 1857, and who, it is contended, secured title under an original colonial grant. The plaintiffs contend that they have had undisturbed possession of the stream, the title thereto being subject to the public rights of navigation.

Disasters to Ships. London, Dec. 2.—The Norwegian bark Eola, from Norvalle for London, which was abandoned on Nov. 10 in latitude 48 north, longitude 20 west, was sighted on Nov. 20 in latitude 50 north, longitude 25 west. She had broken up and become a complete wreck.

The British steamer Shillton, from Calcutta, via Norfolk, for Aarhus, reported near Stanger, Norway, lies in a perilous position with the waves sweeping over her. The beach is strewn with broken boats and gear.

ACTRESSES IN THE P. W. L. ARE ANGRY.

Assert That a Scheme Is on Foot to Keep Them from Voting.

A storm is brewing in the Professional Woman's League, and all because of a little notice on its bulletin board which says that at the League's next business meeting, the latter assert that the anti-Palmerites. The notice asserts that the anti-Palmerites, if adopted, would mean that the followers of the League's president, Mrs. A. M. Palmer, would have masters all in their own hands and that her re-election would be practically assured. Mrs. Palmer's adherents are mostly among the members of the League who are not on the stage.

On the other hand, the anti-Palmerites, who will be on the road in February, and unable to cast their vote, will have masters all in their own hands. The League formerly held its elections in February. The date was afterwards changed to April in order to enable its members in the theatrical profession to have a voice in selecting its officers. They will be heard from at the coming meeting.

HYSTERICAL WOMAN SPLINTERS WINDOWS.

Mrs. Lillian Stevenson Is Interrupted in the Pastime in Her Home.

Mrs. Lillian Stevenson, who was stopping with Mrs. Morton, at No. 61 East Twelfth street, became so hysterical yesterday that she began to break every window in the house. She hurt herself with the broken glass. She went to Bellevue.

Trolley Conductor Killed. William Davis, a trolley car conductor, of No. 1612 Broadway, was pushed from his car by a wagon at Fifty-ninth street and the Boulevard yesterday and died in Roosevelt Hospital a little later.

Long Distance Company to Get Them--Directors So Vote.

Boston, Dec. 2.—The directors of the American Bell Telephone Company have voted to turn over the assets of the company to the American Telephone and Telegraph Company. This is the first step in the removal of the company from Massachusetts to New York.

The action was taken yesterday, but was not announced until today, when President Hudson authorized the following statement: "The substance of the action of the directors is that the assets of the American Telephone Company are to be taken over by the long-distance company (American Telephone and Telegraph Company). It is to be recommended that two shares of long-distance company stock be exchanged for one share of American Bell Telephone Company stock. The balance of \$19,000,000 or \$20,000,000 of long-distance company stock will be held for the benefit of the long-distance company."

The Bell Telephone people are unprepared to announce dividends to be paid on the long-distance stock, or the date when the new plan will become operative. Outside opinion is to the effect that the new stock will carry yearly dividends of 5 per cent a share.

As a result of the announcement Bell Telephone stock dropped below 350 in the Boston market this morning.

Meyer Jonasson & Co.

Will Offer Remarkable Values in Their Cloak Department.

Automobile Coats, loose or half-fitting, tan, castor, black (reduced from \$40.00), \$25.00

Ladies' Newmarkets and Ulsters, (reduced from \$35 and \$40), \$25.00

Ladies' Jackets of Kerseys, Oxfords and Cheviots, lined with superior linings and custom tailored (regular retail values \$20, \$22 and \$25), \$15.00

In addition will offer 200 Ladies' Jackets, the accumulation of a season's business, (reduced from \$12 and \$15), \$8.75

BROADWAY AND 12th St.

Meyer Jonasson & Co.

Announce for this week an unusual opportunity in Fur Jackets, and to further popularize this great, growing department, will offer in their

FUR DEPARTMENT

Seal Jackets, London dye, new model, chinchilla collar and revers, bell sleeves, made to measure (retail value \$300), \$175.00

Seal Jackets, new model, to measure (retail value \$200), \$125.00

(Delivery in two weeks after order is placed.)

Broad Tail Jackets, Chinchilla or Baum Marten collar and revers (retail value \$275), \$175.00

Persian Lamb Jackets, Baum Marten collar and revers (retail value \$185), \$125.00

Persian Lamb Jackets, (retail value \$125), \$85.00

XXXX Arctic Seal Jackets, mink collar and full revers (retail value \$85), \$57.50

BROADWAY AND 12th St.

CAREY & SIDES,

56 and 58 Fourth Ave., Cor. 9th St., NEW YORK.

America's Largest Credit Clothiers and Tailors.

Every day we receive large sums of money from different people. For seventeen years this large wheel of CREDIT has been going around. If you open an account with us to-day an equivalent to your purchase has been paid for by somebody else. This is a feature of our "NO EXTRA CHARGE" CREDIT system. It is thoroughly co-operative.

Men's Suits and Overcoats, ready made, \$10, \$12, \$15, \$18, \$20, \$22, \$25, \$30, \$35, \$40, \$45, \$50, \$55, \$60, \$65, \$70, \$75, \$80, \$85, \$90, \$95, \$100, \$110, \$120, \$130, \$140, \$150, \$160, \$170, \$180, \$190, \$200, \$210, \$220, \$230, \$240, \$250, \$260, \$270, \$280, \$290, \$300, \$310, \$320, \$330, \$340, \$350, \$360, \$370, \$380, \$390, \$400, \$410, \$420, \$430, \$440, \$450, \$460, \$470, \$480, \$490, \$500, \$510, \$520, \$530, \$540, \$550, \$560, \$570, \$580, \$590, \$600, \$610, \$620, \$630, \$640, \$650, \$660, \$670, \$680, \$690, \$700, \$710, \$720, \$730, \$740, \$750, \$760, \$770, \$780, \$790, \$800, \$810, \$820, \$830, \$840, \$850, \$860, \$870, \$880, \$890, \$900, \$910, \$920, \$930, \$940, \$950, \$960, \$970, \$980, \$990, \$1000.

Open Mondays Until 9, Saturdays, 10:30.

BELL TELEPHONE TO GIVE UP ASSETS.

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Open Mondays Until 9, Saturdays, 10:30.

QUEEN'S GIFTS TO "TOMMY ATKINS."

One Will Cheer, Won't Inebriate, and Is Nourishing.

London, Dec. 1.—Queen Victoria's little personal Christmas present to each of her soldiers and sailors now serving in South Africa will be a half-pound box of chocolate, which, according to Sir Plested Edwards in a letter to Lord Lansdowne, Her Majesty has been given to understand will be appropriate and acceptable.

One hundred thousand boxes of chocolate have been ordered, the order being divided among those widely known firms, Cadbury, Fry and Rowntree. The chocolate will be suitable either as a beverage or a sweetmeat. The quantity supplied is sufficient to make from twelve to sixteen cups.

The chocolate will be supplied in tin boxes, and a special box has been designed. The tin will have a red ground with a gilt medallion of the Queen in the center, while at the sides there are the monogram V. R. I. surmounted by a crown and the words "South Africa," with the date "1900."

The tin is being made without delay—30,000 of them by lithographic printers, so that no time may be lost in sending them off to South Africa.

BOWERY ORGAN RECITAL.

Special Musical Services at the Mission in Honor of Organist Benke.

Special musical services were held at the Bowery Mission, No. 55 Bowery, last evening, in honor of the fifth anniversary of the connection of Professor Victor Benke as organist of the mission. For half an hour before the opening of the regular order of services Professor Benke gave an organ recital and during the evening played the overture from "Tannhauser," the intermezzo from "Cavalleria Rusticana" and a large amount of other music. A number of soloists were present to assist.

The Countess Schlimmelmann will be present at the services at noon to-day.

Stern Brothers

are now showing in their Linen Departments a large assortment of new designs in Linen and Lace Table Pieces

consisting of Point Venice, Russian, Duchesse, Arab and Renaissance Lace Tea Cloths, Centre Pieces, Doylies, Tray Cloths and Scarfs, Hand-Embroidered and Drawn-Work Articles.

And in addition will offer to-morrow.

18 in. 20 in. 24 in. 28 in.

Renaissance Centre Pieces, at \$1.75, \$1.98, \$2.65, \$3.25

Round and Square, at \$3.90, \$5.25

Renaissance Scarfs, size 20x54 in. \$3.95, \$5.50

Tea Cloths, 36 inch, \$3.95, \$5.50

Monday, a collection of this season's Ladies' Costumes

For Street, Dinner and Evening Wear, of Cloth, Zibelines, Cluny and Guipure Lace, Plain and Spangled Net

At Very Great Reductions From Previous Prices

Dress Goods Sections

All-Wool Dress Fabrics in plain colors, mixtures and Novelty Effects, put up in dress lengths for Holiday Presents, at \$2.35, \$2.65, \$2.95, \$3.25, \$3.45

Blacks, in Plain and Fancy Weaves, \$2.95, \$3.35, \$3.95, \$4.50

Cotton Dress Patterns, \$1.00, \$1.10, \$1.20,